

PRO

PROJECTURE. *n. f.* [*projectura*, Fr. *projetura*, Lat.] A jutting out.
TO PROIN. *v. a.* [a corruption of *prune*.] To lop; to cut; to trim; to prune.
 I fit and *prune* my wings
 After flight, and put new stings
 To my shafts. *Benj. Johnson.*
 The country husbandman will not give the *pruning* knife to a young plant, as not able to admit the scar. *B. Johnson.*
TO PROLA'TE. *v. a.* [*prolation*, Lat.] To pronounce; to utter.
 The pressures of war have somewhat cowed their spirits, as may be gathered from the accent of their words, which they *prolate* in a whining querulous tone, as if still complaining and crest-fallen. *Hewcl.*
PROLA'TE. *adj.* [*prolatum*, Lat.] Oblate; flat.
 As to the *prolate* spheroidal figure, though it be the necessary result of the earth's rotation about its own axis, yet it is also very convenient for us. *Chryse's Phil. Prin.*
PROLA'TION. *n. f.* [*prolatum*, Lat.]
 1. Pronunciation; utterance.
 Parrots, having been used to be fed at the *prolation* of certain words, may afterwards pronounce the same. *Ray.*
 2. Delay; act of deferring. *Ainsworth.*
PROLEGOMENA. *n. f.* [*προλεγόμενα*; *prolegomena*, Fr.] Previous discourse; introductory observations.
PROLEPSIS. *n. f.* [*προληψις*; *prolepsis*, Fr.] A form of rhetoric, in which objections are anticipated.
 This was contained in my *prolepsis* or prevention of his answer. *Bramhall against Hobbs.*
PROLEPTICAL. *adj.* [*proleptis*, Fr.] Previous; antecedent.
 The *proleptical* notions of religion cannot be so well defended by the professed servants of the altar. *Glanvil.*
PROLEPTICALLY. *adv.* [*from proleptical*.] By way of anticipation.
PROLETARIAN. *adj.* Mean; wretched; vile; vulgar.
 Like speculators should forelee,
 From pharos of authority,
 Potentated mischief farther than
 Low proletarian tyding-men. *Hudibras, p. i.*
PROLIFICATION. *n. f.* [*proles* and *facio*, Lat.] Generation of children.
 Their fruits, proceeding from simpler roots, are not so distinguishable as the offspring of sensible creatures, and *prolifications* descending from double origins. *Brown.*
PROLIFICK. *adj.* [*prolifique*, Fr. *proles* and *facio*.] Fruitful; generative; pregnant; productive.
PROLIFICAL. *adj.* *ful*, generative; pregnant; productive.
 Main ocean flow'd; not idle, but with warm
 Prolifick humour soft'ning all her globe,
 Fermented the great mother to conceive,
 Satiate with genial moisture. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
 Every dispute in religion grew *prolifical*, and in ventilating one question, many new ones were started. *Decay of Piety.*
 His vital power air, earth and seas supplies,
 And breeds whatever is bred beneath the skies;
 For every kind, by thy *proliffic* might,
 Springs. *Dryden.*
 All dogs are of one species, they mingling together in generation, and the breed of such mixtures being *proliffic*. *Ray.*
 From the middle of the world,
 The sun's *proliffic* rays are hurl'd;
 'Tis from that seat he darts those beams,
 Which quicken earth with genial flames. *Prior.*
PROLIFICALITY. *adv.* [*from proliffic*.] Fruitfully; pregnantly.
PROLIX. *adj.* [*prolixus*, Fr. *prolixus*, Latin.]
 1. Long; tedious; not concise.
 According to the caution we have been so *prolix* in giving, if we aim at right understanding the true nature of it, we must examine what apprehension mankind make of it. *Digby.*
 Should I at large repeat
 The head-roll of her vicious tricks,
 My poem would be too *prolix*. *Prior.*
 2. Of long duration. This is a very rare *prolix*.
 If the appellant appoints a term too *prolix*, the judge may then assign a competent term. *Ayliffe's Purgon.*
PROLIXIOUS. *adj.* [*from prolix*.] Dilatory; tedious. A word of *Shakespeare's* coming.
 Lay by all nicely and *prolixious* bluffs. *Shakespeare.*
PROLIXITY. *n. f.* [*prolixitas*, Fr. *from prolix*.] Tediousness; tedious length; want of brevity.
 It is true, without any slips of *prolixity*, or crossing the plain highway of talk, that the good Antonio hath lost a ship. *Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice.*
 In some other passages, I may have, to shun *prolixity*, unawares slid into the contrary extreme. *Boyle.*
PROLIV. *adv.* [*from prolix*.] At great length; tediously.
 On this *prolively* thankful the enlarg'd. *Dryden.*
PROLIXNESS. *n. f.* [*from prolix*.] Tediousness.
PROLOCUTOR. *n. f.* [Latin.] The foreman; the speaker of a convocation.
 The convocation the queen prorogued, though at the expense of Dr. Atterbury's displeasure, who was design'd their *prolocutor*. *Swift.*

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PROLOCUTORSHIP. *n. f.* [*from prolocutor*.] The office or dignity of prolocutor.
PROLOGUE. *n. f.* [*πρόλογος*; *prologue*, Fr. *prologus*, Latin.]
 1. Preface; introduction to any discourse or performance.
 Come, fit, and a song.
 — Shall we clap into 't roundly, without hawking, or spitting, or saying we are hoarse, which are the only *prologues* to a bad voice? *Shakespeare, As You Like It.*
 In her face excuse
 Came *prologus*, and apology too prompt. *Milton.*
 2. Something spoken before the entrance of the actors of a play.
 If my death might make this island happy,
 And prove the period of their tyranny,
 I would expend it with all willingness;
 But mine is made the *prologue* to their play. *Shakespeare.*
 The peaking cornuto comes in the infant, after we had spoke the *prologue* of our comedy. *Shakespeare.*
TO PROLOGUE. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To introduce with a formal preface.
 He his special nothing ever *prologues*. *Shakespeare.*
TO PROLONG. *v. a.* [*prolonger*, Fr. *pro* and *longus*, Lat.]
 1. To lengthen out; to continue; to draw out.
 Henceforth I fly not death, nor would *prolong*
 Life much. *Milton.*
 Th' unhappy queen with talk *prolong'd* the night. *Dryden.*
 2. To put off to a distant time.
 I o-morrow in my judgment is too sudden;
 For I myself am not so well provided,
 As else I would be were the day *prolong'd*. *Shakespeare.*
PROLONGATION. *n. f.* [*prolongation*, Fr. *from prolong*.]
 1. The act of lengthening.
 Nourishment in living creatures is for the *prolongation* of life. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
 2. Delay to a longer time.
 This ambassage concerned only the *prolongation* of days for payment of monies. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
PROLUSION. *n. f.* [*prolusio*, Lat.] Entertainments; performance of diversion.
 It is memorable, which Famianus Strada, in the first book of his academical *prolusions*, relates of Suarez. *Hakewill.*
PROMINENT. *adj.* [*prominent*, Lat.] Standing out beyond the near parts; protuberant; extant.
 Whales are described with two *prominent* spouts on their heads, whereas they have but one in the forehead terminating over the windpipe. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
 She has her eyes so *prominent*, and placed so that she can see better behind her than before her. *Mary.*
 Two goodly bowls of massy silver,
 With figures *prominent* and richly wrought. *Dryden.*
 Some have their eyes stand so *prominent* as the hare, that they can see as well behind as before them. *Ray.*
PROMINENCE. *n. f.* [*prominentia*, Latin; *from prominent*.]
PROMINENCY. *n. f.* [*from prominence*.] Protuberance; extant part.
 It shows the nose and eyebrows, with the *prominencies* and fallings in of the features. *Addison on Ancient Medals.*
PROMISCUOUS. *adj.* [*promiscuus*, Lat.] Mingled; confused; undistinguished.
 Glory he requires, and glory he receives,
 Promiscuous from all nations. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
 Promiscuous love by marriage was restrain'd. *Johnson.*
 In rush'd at once a rude *promiscuous* crowd;
 The guards, and then each other overbear,
 And in a moment throng the theatre. *Dryden.*
 No man, that considers the *promiscuous* dispensations of God's providence in this world, can think it unreasonable to conclude, that after this life good men shall be rewarded, and sinners punished. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
 The earth was formed out of that *promiscuous* mass of sand, earth, shells, subsiding from the water. *Woodward.*
 Clubs, diamonds, hearts, in wild disorder seen,
 With throngs *promiscuous* throw the level green. *Pope.*
 A wild, where weeds and flow'rs *promiscuous* shoot. *Pope.*
PROMISCUOUSLY. *adv.* [*from promiscuus*.] With confused mixture; indiscriminately.
 We beheld where once stood Ilium, called Troy *promiscuously* of Troas. *Sandys's Journey.*
 That generation, as the sacred writer modestly expresses it, married and gave in marriage without discretion or decency, but *promiscuously*, and with no better a guide than the impulses of a brutal appetite. *Woodward.*
 Here might you see
 Barons and peasants on the embattled field,
 In one huge heap, *promiscuously* amass'd. *Philips.*
 Unaw'd by precepts human or divine,
 Like birds and beasts *promiscuously* they join. *Pope.*
PROMISE. *n. f.* [*promissio*, Lat. *promissio*, *promissus*, Fr.]
 1. Declaration of some benefit to be conferred.
 I eat the air, *promise* cramm'd; you cannot feed upon so. *Swift.*
 His *promise* were, as he then was, mighty;
 But his performance, as he now is, nothing. *Shakespeare.*
 O Lord, let thy *promise* unto David be established. *1 Chron.*
 Behold, she said, perform'd in ev'ry part.
 My *promise* made; and Vulcan's labour'd art. *Dryden.*
 2. A promise made; and Vulcan's labour'd art. *Dryden.*

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Let any man consider, how many sorrows he would have escaped, had God called him to his rest, and then say, whether the *promise* to deliver the just from the evils to come, ought not to be made our daily prayer. *Wake.*
 2. Performance of promise; grant of the thing promised.
 Now are they ready, looking for a *promise* from thee. *Atterbury.*
 3. Hopes; expectation.
 Your young prince Mamillius is a gentleman of the greatest *promise*. *Shakespeare, Winter's Tale.*
TO PROMISE. *v. a.* [*promittere*, Fr. *promitto*, Lat.]
 1. To make declaration of some benefit to be conferred.
 While they *promise* them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption. *2 Peter ii. 18.*
 I could not expect such an effect as I found, which seldom reaches to the degree that is *promised* by the preachers of any remedies. *Temple's Miscel.*
TO PROMISE. *v. n.*
 1. To assure one by a promise.
Promising is the very air o' th' time; it opens the eyes of expectation: performance is ever the duller for his act. *Shakespeare.*
 I dare *promise* for this play, that in the roughness of the numbers, which was so designed, you will see somewhat more masterly than any of my former tragedies. *Dryden.*
 As he *promised* in the law, he will shortly have mercy, and gather us together. *2 Mac. ii. 18.*
 All the pleasure we can take, when we met these *promising* sparks, is in the disappointment. *Folten.*
 She brib'd my play, with more than human charms;
 Nay *promis'd*, vainly *promis'd* to bestow
 Immortal life. *Pope's Odyssey.*
 2. It is used of assurance, even of ill.
 Will not the ladies be afraid of the lion?
 — I fear it, I *promise* you. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISEBREAKER. *n. f.* [*each and promise*.] Violation of promise. Not in use.
 Criminal in double violation
 Of sacred chastity, and of *promise* each. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISEBREAKER. *n. f.* [*promise* and *break*.] Violator of promises.
 He's an hourly *promisebreaker*, the owner of no one good quality worthy your entertainment. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISER. *n. f.* [*from promise*.] One who promises.
 Who let this *promiser* in? did you, good Diligence?
 Give him his bribe again. *Benj. Johnson.*
 Fear's a large *promiser*; who subject live
 To that base passion, know not what they give. *Dryden.*
PROMISSORY. *adj.* [*promissorius*, Lat.] Containing profession of some benefit to be conferred.
 As the preceptive part enjoins the most exact virtue, so is it most advantageously enforced by the *promissory*, which is most exquisitely adapted to the same end. *Decay of Piety.*
 The *promissory* lyes of great men are known by shoudering, hugging, squeezing, smiling and bowing. *Arbutnot.*
PROMISSORILY. *adv.* [*from promissory*.] By way of promise.
 Nor was he obliged by oath to a strict observation of that which *promissorily* was unlawful. *Brown.*
PROMONT. *n. f.* [*from promontus*, Fr. *promontorium*, Latin.]
PROMONTORY. *n. f.* [*from promont*.] A headland; a cape; high land jutting into the sea.
 A headland; a cape; high land jutting into the sea.
 The hand did shoot out with a great *promontory*. *Abbot.*
 I have dogs
 Will climb the highest *promontory* top. *Shakespeare.*
 Like one that stands upon a *promontory*,
 And spies a far off shore where he would tread. *Shakespeare.*
 A forked mountain, or blue *promontory*,
 With trees upon't, nod unto the world,
 And mock our eyes with air. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleop.*
 The waving sea can with each flood
 Bath some high *promont*. *Suckling.*
 They, on their heads,
 Main *promontories* hung, which in the air
 Came shadowing, and oppress'd whole legions arm'd. *Milton.*
 Every gust of rugged winds,
 That blows from off each beaked *promontory*. *Milton.*
 If you drink tea upon a *promontory* that overhangs the sea, it is preferable to an assembly. *Pope.*
TO PROMOTE. *v. a.* [*promovere*, *prometus*, Lat.]
 1. To forward; to advance.
 Next to religion, let your care be to *promote* justice. *Bacon.*
 Nothing lovelier can be found,
 Than good works in her husband to *promote*. *Milton.*
 He that talks deceitfully for truth, must hurt it more by his example, than he *promotes* it by his arguments. *Atterbury.*
 Frictions of the extreme parts *promote* the flux of the juices in the joints. *Ambrosius.*
 2. [*Promoveo*, Fr.] To elevate; to exalt; to prefer.
 I will *promote* thee unto very great honour. *Numb. xxii. 17.*
 Shall I leave my fatteries wherewith thy honour God and man, and go to be *promoted* over the trees. *Judges ix. 9.*
 Did I solicit thee
 From darkness to *promote* me. *Milton.*
PROMOTER. *n. f.* [*promoveo*, Fr. *from promote*.]
 1. Advancer; forwarder; encourager.

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Knowledge hath received little improvement from the endeavours of many pretending *promoters*. *Glanvil.*
 Our Saviour makes this return, fit to be engraven in the hearts of all *promoters* of charity; verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. *Atterbury.*
 2. Informer; makebate. An obsolete use.
 His cics be *promoters*, some trespass to spie. *T. S.*
 Informers and *promote* s oppress and ruin the estates of many of his best subjects. *Dunsmuir.*
PROMOTION. *n. f.* [*promoti*, Fr. *from promote*.] Advancement; encouragement; exaltation to some new honour or rank; preferment.
 Many fair *promotions*
 Are daily given to noble thofe,
 That scarce, some two days since, were worth a noble. *Shakespeare.*
 The high *promotion* of his grace of Canterbury,
 Who holds his state at door 'mongst puritans. *Shakespeare.*
 My rising is thy fall,
 And my *promotion* will be thy destruction. *Milton.*
 Thou youngest virgin-daughter of the skies,
 Made in the last *promotion* of the blest;
 Whose palms, new pluck'd from paradise,
 In spreading branches more sublimely rise. *Dryden.*
TO PROMOVE. *v. a.* [*promoveo*, Lat. *promoveo*, Fr.] To forward; to advance; to promote. A word little used.
 Never yet was honest man,
 That ever drove the trade of love:
 It is impossible, nor can
 Integrity outend *promove*. *Suckling.*
PROMPT. *adj.* [*prompt*, Fr. *promptus*, Lat.]
 1. Quick; ready; acute; easy.
 The reception of light into the body of the building was very *prompt*, both from without and from within. *Newton.*
 Very discerning and *prompt* in giving orders, as occasions required. *Clarendon.*
 Prompt eloquence
 Flow'd from their lips, in prose or numerous verse. *Milton.*
 To the stern sanction of th' offended sky,
 My *prompt* obedience bows. *Pope.*
 2. Quick; petulant.
 I was too hasty to condemn unheard;
 And you, perhaps, too *prompt* in your replies. *Dryden.*
 3. Ready without hesitation; wanting no new motive.
 Tell him, I'm *prompt*
 To lay my crown at his feet, and there to kneel. *Shakespeare.*
 The brazen age,
 A warlike offspring, *prompt* to bloody rage. *Dryden.*
 Still arole some rebel slave,
 Prompter to sink the state, than he to save. *Prior.*
 4. Ready; told down: as, *prompt payment*.
TO PROMPT. *v. a.* [*promptare*, Italian.]
 1. To assist by private instruction; to help at a loss.
 Sitting in some place, where no man shall *prompt* him, let the child translate his lesson. *Aycham.*
 You've put me now to such a part, which never
 I shall discharge to th' life.
 — Come, come, we'll *prompt* you. *Shakespeare, Coriolanus.*
 My voice shall sound as you do *prompt* mine ear,
 And I will stoop and humble my intents
 To your well practis'd wife directions. *Shakespeare.*
 None could hold the book so well to *prompt* and instruct this stage play, as the could. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
 He needed not one to *prompt* him, because he could say the prayers by heart. *Stillingfleet.*
 Every one some time or other dreams he is reading books, in which case the invention *prompts* so readily, that the mind is imposed on. *Addison.*
 Grace shines around her with serene beams,
 And whispering angels *prompt* her golden dream. *Pope.*
 2. To incite; to instigate.
 The Volscians stand
 Ready, when time shall *prompt* them, to make road
 Upon's again. *Shakespeare, Coriolanus.*
 Speak not by th' matter
 Which your heart *prompts* you to, but with such words,
 But rooted in your tongue. *Shakespeare.*
 If they *prompt* us to anger, their design makes use of it to a further end, that the mind, being thus disquieted, may not be easily composed to prayer. *Duessa.*
 Rage *prompted* them at length and found them arms. *Milton.*
 Kind occasion *prompts* their warm desires. *Pope.*
 3. To remind.
 The inconceivable imperfections of ourselves will hourly *prompt* us our corruption, and loudly tell us we are sons of earth. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PROMPTER. *n. f.* [*from prompt*.]
 1. One who helps a public speaker, by suggesting the word to him when he falters.
 Were it my cue to fight, I should have known it
 Without a *prompter*. *Shakespeare, Othello.*
 In florid impotence he speaks,
 And as the *prompter* breathes, the puppet squeaks. *Pope.*
 2. An